in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from among the members of the House, to be a member of the Council of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore for the quadrennium 2006—2009."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Shri Narayanan. Only for two minutes ... *(Interruptions)*... Yes, I have allowed him... *(Interruptions)*... Let him speak.

MATTER RAISED WITH PERMISSION (Contd.)

Request for immediate release of Central Assistance to Tamil Nadu to undertake work on damages caused due to torrential rains and floods

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Tamil Nadu): Let me speak. Sir, Tamil Nadu had abnormal rainfall in three spells. Before Tamil Nadu could put up with previous two spells of torrential rains and floods, the State has now been struck with third spell of heaviest floods. The magnitude of the damage to the infrastructure and the agricultural standing crops and the loss of human lives due to the floods are highly extensive and unprecedented. I demand of the Government that a Central team should be sent immediately to assess the damage. Pending assessment of the damage, Central Government should provide Rs.3000 crores to Tamil Nadu urgently without any loss of time to undertake relief and rehabilitation work, as demanded by our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

[MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.]

Sir, further, I want a detailed discussion in the House shortly as this is an urgent matter... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no please. Mr. Narayanasamy ...*(Interruptions)*... You have not given notice ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Natchiappan, please sit down ...*(Interruptions)*... I have called Mr. Narayanasamy...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Sir, cyclonic storms, torrential rain and floods have affected Tamil Nadu, as raised by the hon. Member. It was unprecedented and Pondicherry was also severely affected. Karaikal region of Pondicherry State was severely affected. More than one lakh people have been rendered homeless and the crops have been damaged. I am grateful to the hon. Home Minister. He sent the team when the first spell of rain was there. They assessed the damages and they submitted the report to the hon. Home Minister. Honourable Home Minister was kind enough to visit Tamil Nadu and also a part of Pondicherry area to have the first hand information about the damages caused. Sir, our State Government was the first to give interim relief to the affected people. Now we do not have the funds. This is the time that the money has to be released by the Central Government from the natural Calamities Fund for the purpose of relief and rehabilitation of the affected people. Therefore, I request the hon. Home Minister to consider the demand and immediately release the funds. In the first instance, the State Government wanted about Rs.112 crores...*(Interruptions)*... I want the hon. Home Minister to respond because he visited the affected areas yesterday. Let him respond and give us an assurance in the House that he will release the funds immediately. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, we want a proper reply. This is not an ordinary matter..., *(Interruptions)*... There is no response from the Government. Let the Home Minister respond ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: Sir, the Government should respond.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): Sir, the Central Team had gone to Tamil Nadu to assess the damage caused by previous rainfall. Yesterday, the Finance Minister, the Minister of State for Home and myself had gone to that place, and we could fly over nearly nine districts for nearly three hours, and we have come back. We are going to sanction some amount of money immediately, and then, we will sanction the required amount of money also after a team is sent to Tamil Nadu and it comes back. This team is leaving today itself and going to Tamil Nadu. ... *(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Narayanasamy, after a satisfactory reply by him, why do you try to disturb him? Now, Special Mentions. Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Demand for early clearance of various projects of Andhra Pradesh pending with the Ministry of Environment and Forests

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise my Special Mention. Sir, the following projects are pending with the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India for clearance.

(i) **Irrigation Projects**

1. Dummugudem Lift Irrigation Scheme
2. Dammugudem Hydro Electric Project
3. Pushkaram Lift Irrigation Scheme

(ii) **Industrial Projects**
Expansion of capacity from 4.0 MTPA hot metal to 6.5 MTPA hot metal in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant.

(iii) **Thermal Projects**
1 x 500 mw. Bhoopalapally Thermal Power Station near Neredupally, District Warangal.

(iv) **Infrastructure and Miscellaneous Projects**
Environmental clearance for NHs Development Project Widening and upgradation of NH7 between Anantpur Km. (336/0) to Karnataka Border (Km. 463.6).

(v) **New Construction Projects and Industrial Estates**

Request for CRZ clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests for the proposed Bay Park Resort Project in 11.33 hectares costing Rs.38.00 crores at Rushikonda in Visakhapatnam.
As these projects are pending for quite long, I urge upon the Union Government to kindly clear these projects at an early date.